

# MAI

**MA'INPERNOR.** *n. f.* Surety; bail.  
He enforced the earl himself to fly, till twenty-six noble-  
men became *mainpernors* for his appearance at a certain day;  
but he making default, the uttermost advantage was taken  
against his sureties. *Davies on Ireland.*  
**MA'INPRIZE.** *n. f.* [*main and pris*, French.] Delivery into the  
custody of a friend, upon security given for appearance;  
bail.  
Sir William Bretingham was executed for treason, though  
the earl of Desmond was left to *mainprize*. *Davies.*  
Give its poor entertainer quarter;  
And, by discharge or *mainprize*, grant  
Deliv'ry from this base restraint. *Hudibras*, p. ii.  
**MA'INSAIL.** *n. f.* [*main and sail*.] The sail of the main-  
mast.  
They committed themselves unto the sea, and hoisted up  
the *main-sail* to the wind, and made toward shore. *Acts* xxvii.  
**MA'INSHEET.** *n. f.* [*main and sheet*.] The sheet or sail of the  
mainmast.  
Strike, strike the top-sail; let the *main-sheet* fly,  
And furl your sails. *Dryden.*  
**MA'INYARD.** *n. f.* [*main and yard*.] The yard of the main-  
mast.  
With sharp hooks they took hold of the tackling which  
held the *mainyard* to the mast, then rowing they cut the  
tackling, and brought the *mainyard* by the board. *Arbutnot.*  
**TO MAINTAIN.** *v. a.* [*maintenir*, French.]  
1. To preserve; to keep.  
The ingredients being prescribed in their substance, *main-  
tain* the blood in a gentle fermentation, reclude opulations,  
and munday it. *Harvey.*  
This place, these pledges of your love, *maintain*. *Dryd.*  
2. To defend; to hold out; to make good.  
God values no man more or less, in placing him high or  
low, but every one as he *maintains* his post. *Grew's Cosmol.*  
3. To vindicate; to justify.  
If any man of quality will *maintain* upon Edward earl of  
Glo'ster, that he is a manifold traitor, let him appear. *Shak.*  
These possessions being unlawfully gotten, could not be  
*maintained* by the just and honourable law of England. *Davies.*  
*Maintain*  
My right, nor think the name of mother vain. *Dryden.*  
Lord Roberts was full of contradiction in his temper, and of  
parts so much superior to any in the company, that he could  
too well *maintain* and justify those contradictions. *Clarendon.*  
It is hard to *maintain* the truth. *South.*  
4. To continue; to keep up.  
*Maintain* talk with the duke, that my charity be not of  
him perceived. *Shakespeare's King Lear.*  
Some did the song, and some the choir *maintain*,  
Beneath a laurel shade. *Dryden.*  
5. To keep up; to support the expence of.  
I seek not to wax great by others waining;  
Suffice, that I have *maintains* my state,  
And sends the poor well pleased from my gate. *Shaksp.*  
What concerns it you if I wear pearl and gold? I thank  
my good father I am able to *maintain* it. *Shakespeare.*  
6. To support with the conveniences of life.  
It was St. Paul's choice to *maintain* himself by his own la-  
bour. *Hooker.*  
If a woman *maintain* her husband, she is full of anger and  
much reproach. *Ecclesiast.* xxv. 22.  
It is hard to *maintain* the truth, but much harder to be  
*maintained* by it. Could it ever yet feed, cloath, or defend  
its assertors? *South.*  
7. To preserve from failure.  
Here ten thousand images remain  
Without confusion, and their rank *maintain*. *Blackmore.*  
**TO MAINTAIN.** *v. n.* To support by argument; to assert as  
a tenet.  
In tragedy and satire I *maintain* against some of our mo-  
dern critics, that this age and the last have excelled the an-  
cients. *Dryden's Juvenal.*  
**MAINTAINABLE.** *adj.* [*from maintain*.] Defensible; justifiable.  
Being made lord lieutenant of Bulloine, the walls fore  
beaten and shaken, and scarce *maintainable*, he defended the  
place against the dauphin. *Hoyward.*  
**MAINTAINER.** *n. f.* [*from maintain*.] Supporter; cherisher.  
He dedicated the work to Sir Philip Sidney, a special  
*maintainer* of all learning.  
The *maintainers* and cherishers of a regular devotion, a  
true and decent piety. *South's Sermons.*  
**MAINTENANCE.** *n. f.* [*maintenant*, French.]  
1. Supply of the necessities of life; sustentance; sustentation.  
It was St. Paul's own choice to *maintain* himself by his la-  
bour, whereas in living by the churches *maintenance*, as others  
did, there had been no offence committed. *Hooker*, b. i.  
God assigned Adam *maintenance* of life, and then appoint-  
ed him a law to observe. *Hooker*, b. i.

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Those of better fortune not making learning their *main-  
tenance*, take degrees with little improvement. *Swift.*  
2. Support; protection; defence.  
They knew that no man might in reason take upon him  
to determine his own right, and according to his own deter-  
mination proceed in *maintenance* thereof. *Hooker*, b. i.  
The beginning and cause of this ordinance amongst the  
Irish was for the defence and *maintenance* of their lands in  
their posterity. *Spenser on Ireland.*  
3. Continuance; security from failure.  
Whatever is granted to the church for God's honour,  
and the *maintenance* of his service, is granted for and to God.  
*South's Sermons.*  
**MA'INTOP.** *n. f.* [*main and top*.] The top of the mainmast.  
From their *maintop* joyful news they hear  
Of ships, which by their mould bring new supplies. *Dryd.*  
Dictys could the *maintop-mast* bestride,  
And down the ropes with active vigour slide. *Addison.*  
**MA'JOR.** *adj.* [*major*, Latin.]  
1. Greater in number, quantity, or extent.  
They bind none, nor though they be many, saving  
only when they are the *major* part of a general assembly, and  
then their voices being more in number, must overway their  
judgments who are fewer. *Hooker*, b. iv.  
The true meridian is a *major* circle passing through the  
poles of the world and the zenith of any place, exactly di-  
viding the east from the west. *Brown's Vulgar Errors*.  
In common discourse we denominate persons and things  
according to the *major* part of their character: he is to be  
called a wife man who has but few follies. *Watts's Logic.*  
2. Greater in dignity.  
Fall Greek, fall fame, honour, or go, or stay,  
My *major* vow lies here. *Shaksp. Tril. and Cressida.*  
**MA'JOR.** *n. f.*  
1. The officer above the captain; the lowest field officer.  
2. A mayor or head officer of a town. Obsolete.  
3. The first proposition of a syllogism, containing some ge-  
nerality.  
The *major* of our author's argument is to be understood of  
the material ingredients of bodies. *Boyle.*  
4. **MAJOR-general.** The general officer of the second rank.  
*Major-general* Ravignan returned with the French king's  
answer. *Taitler*, N<sup>o</sup>. 53.  
5. **MAJOR-damo.** *n. f.* [*major-dame*, French.] One who holds  
occasionally the place of master of the house.  
**MAJORA'TION.** *n. f.* [*from major*.] Encrease; enlargement.  
There be five ways of *majoration* of founts: enclosure lim-  
ple; enclosure with dilatation; communication; reflection  
concurrent; and approach to the senfory. *Bacon's Nat. Hist.*  
**MAJORITY.** *n. f.* [*from major*.]  
1. The state of being greater.  
It is not plurality of parts without *majority* of parts that  
maketh the total greater. *Grew's Cosmol.*  
2. The greater number. [*majorité*, French.]  
It was highly probable the *majority* would be so wise as to  
espouse that cause which was most agreeable to the publick  
weal, and by that means hinder a sedition. *Addison.*  
As in senates so in schools,  
*Majority* of voices rules. *Prior.*  
Decent executions keep the world in awe; for that reason  
the *majority* of mankind ought to be hang'd every year.  
*Arbutnot's Hist. of J. Bull.*  
3. [*From majores*, Latin.] Ancestry.  
Of evil parents an evil generation, a posterity not unlike  
their *majority*; of mischievous progenitors, a venomous  
and destructive progeny. *Brown's Vulgar Errors*, b. iii.  
4. Full age; end of minority.  
During the infancy of Henry the III, the barons were  
troubled in expelling the French: but this prince was no  
sooner come to his *majority*, but the barons raised a cruel war  
against him. *Davies on Ireland.*  
5. First rank. Obsolete.  
Douglas, whose high deeds,  
Whose hot incursions, and great name in arms,  
Holds from all soldiers chief *majority*,  
And military title capital. *Shaksp. Henry IV.*  
6. The office of a major.  
**MAIZE,** or *Indian Wheat.* *n. f.*  
The whole *maize* plant has the appearance of a reed; the  
male flowers are produced at remote distances from the fruit  
on the same plant, growing generally in a spike upon the top  
of the stalk; the female flowers are produced from the wings  
of the leaves, and are surrounded by three or four leaves,  
which closely adhere to the fruit until it is ripe: this plant is  
propagated in England only as a curiosity, but in America it  
is the principal support of the inhabitants, and consequently  
propagated with great care. *Miller.*  
*Maize* affords a very strong nourishment, but more viscous  
than wheat. *Arbutnot on Aliments.*  
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**TO MAKE.** *v. a.* [*macan*, Saxon; *machen*, German; *maken*,  
Dutch.]  
1. To create.  
Let us *make* man in our image. *Gen.* i. 26.  
The Lord hath *made* all things for himself. *Prov.* xvi. 4.  
Remember't thou  
Thy *making*, while the maker gave thee being. *Milton.*  
2. To form of materials.  
He fashioned it with a graving tool, after he had *made* it a  
molten calf. *Exod.* xxxii. 4.  
God hath *made* of one blood all nations of men. *Acts.*  
We have no other measure, save one of the moon, but  
are artificially *made* out of these by compounding or dividing  
them. *Holder on Time.*  
3. To compose: as, materials or ingredients.  
One of my fellows had the speed of him;  
Who, almost dead for breath, had scarcely more  
Than would *make* up his message. *Shaksp. Macbeth.*  
The heav'n, the air, the earth, and boundless sea,  
*Make* but one temple for the deity. *Waller.*  
A pint of salt of tartar, exposted unto a moist air, will  
*make* far more liquor than the former measure will contain.  
*Brown's Vulgar Errors*, b. ii.  
4. To form by art what is not natural.  
There lavish nature, in her best attire,  
Pours forth sweet odours, and alluring fighs;  
And art with her contending, doth aspire  
To excel the natural with *made* delights. *Spenser.*  
5. To produce as the agent.  
She may give so much credit to her own laws, as to *make*  
their sentence weightier than any bare and naked conceit to  
the contrary. *Hooker*, b. v.  
If I suspect without cause, why then *make* sport at me;  
then let me be your jest. *Shaksp. Merry Wives of Windsor.*  
Thine enemies *make* a tumult. *Id.* lxxxiii. 2.  
When their hearts were merry they said, Call for Samp-  
son, that he may *make* us sport. *Judg.* xvi. 25.  
Give unto Solomon a perfect heart to build the palace for  
the which I have *made* provision. *1 Chron.* xxix. 19.  
Why *make* ye this ado, and weep? the damsel is not dead.  
*Mark* v. 39.  
He *maketh* intercession to God against Israel. *Rom.* xi. 2.  
Thou hast set signs and wonders in the land of Egypt,  
and hast *made* thee a name. *Jer.* xxxii. 20.  
Should we then *make* mirth?  
Joshua *made* peace, and *made* a league with them to let  
them live. *Josh.* ix. 15.  
Both combine  
To *make* their greatness by the fall of man, *Dryden.*  
Egypt, mad with superstition grown,  
*Makes* gods of monsters. *Tate's Juvenal.*  
6. To produce as a cause.  
Wealth *maketh* many friends; but the poor is separated  
from his neighbour. *Prov.* xix. 4.  
A man's gift *maketh* room for him, and bringeth him be-  
fore great men. *Prov.* xviii. 16.  
The child who is taught to believe any occurrence to be a  
good or evil omen, or any day of the week lucky, hath a  
wide inroad made upon the foundnels of his understanding. *Watts.*  
7. To do; to perform; to practise; to use.  
Though the appear honest to me, yet in other places she  
enlargeth her mirth so far, that there is shrewd construction  
made of her. *Shaksp. Merry Wives of Windsor.*  
She *made* haste, and let down her pitcher. *Gen.* xxiv. 46.  
Thou hast *made* an atonement for it. *Exod.* xxix. 36.  
I will judge his house for ever, because his sons *made* them-  
selves vile, and he restrained them not. *1 Sam.* iii. 13.  
We *made* prayer unto our God. *Neh.* iv. 9.  
He shall *make* a speedy riddance of all in the land. *Zeph.*  
They all began to *make* excuse. *Luke* xiv. 18.  
It hath pleased them of Macedonia and Achaia to *make* a  
certain contribution for the poor. *Rom.* xv. 26.  
Make full proof of thy ministry. *2 Tim.* iv. 5.  
The Venetians, provoked by the Turks with divers inju-  
ries, both by sea and land, resolved, without delay, to *make*  
war likewise upon him. *Kinsley's Hist. of the Turks.*  
Such mulick as before was never *made*,  
But when of old the fons of morning sung. *Milton.*  
All the actions of his life were ripped up and surveyed,  
and all malicious glosses *made* upon all he had said, and all  
he had done. *Clarendon.*  
Says Carneades, since neither you nor I love repeti-  
tions, I shall not now *make* any of what else was urged against  
Themistius. *Boyle.*  
The Phcenicians *made* claim to this man as theirs, and  
attributed to him the invention of letters. *Hale.*  
What hope, O Pantheus! whether can we run?  
Where *make* a stand? and what may yet be done? *Dryd.*  
While merchants *make* long voyages by sea  
To get estates, he cuts a shorter way. *Dryden's Juv.*  
To what end did Ulysses *make* that journey? *Æneas un-*

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dertook it by the express commandment of his father's ghost.  
*Dryden's Dedication to the Æneis*  
He that will *make* a good use of any part of his life, must  
allow a large portion of it to recreation. *Locke.*  
*Make* some request, and I,  
Whate'er it be, with that request comply. *Addison.*  
Were it permitted, he should *make* the tour of the whole  
system of the sun. *Arbutnot and Pope's Mart. Scrib.*  
8. To cause to have any quality.  
I will *make* your cities waste. *Lev.* xxvi. 31.  
Her husband hath utterly *made* them void on the day he  
heard them. *Num.* xxx. 12.  
When he had *made* a convenient room, he set it in a wall,  
and *made* it fast with iron. *Wisd.* xiii. 15.  
Jesus came into Cana, where he *made* the water wine.  
*John* iv. 46.  
He was the more inflamed with the desire of battle with  
Waller, to *make* even all accounts. *Clarendon*, b. viii.  
I bred you up to arms, rais'd you to power,  
Permitted you to fight for this usurper;  
All to *make* sure the vengeance of this day,  
Which even this day has ruin'd. *Dryden's Spanish Fryar.*  
In respect of actions within the reach of such a power in  
him, a man seems as free as it is possible for freedom to *make*  
him. *Locke.*  
9. To bring into any state or condition.  
I have *made* thee a god to Pharaoh. *Exod.* vii. 1.  
Joseph *made* ready his chariot, and went up to meet Israel.  
*Gen.* xli. 29.  
Who *made* thee a prince and a judge over us? *Exod.* ii. 31.  
Ye have troubled me to *make* me to sink among the inha-  
bitants. *Gen.* xxxiv. 30.  
He *made* himself of no reputation, and took upon him the  
form of a servant. *Phil.* ii. 7.  
He should be *made* manifest to Israel. *John* i. 31.  
Though I be free from all men, yet have I *made* myself  
servant unto all, that I might gain the more. *1 Cor.* ix. 19.  
He hath *made* me a by-word of the people, and aforesaid  
I was as a tabret. *Job* xvii. 6.  
*Make* ye him drunken; for he magnified himself against  
the Lord. *Jer.* xlviii. 26.  
Joseph was not willing to *make* her a publick example.  
*Matt.* i. 19.  
By the assistance of this faculty we have all those ideas in  
our understandings, which, though we do not actually con-  
template, yet we can bring in fight, and *make* appear again,  
and be the objects of our thoughts. *Locke.*  
The Lacedemonians trained up their children to hate  
drunkenness by bringing a drunken man into their company,  
and shewing them what a beast he *made* of himself. *Watts.*  
10. To form; to settle.  
Those who are wise in courts  
*Make* friendships with the ministers of state,  
Nor seek the ruins of a wretched exile. *Rowe.*  
11. To hold; to keep.  
Deep in a cave the sybil *makes* abode. *Dryden.*  
12. To secure from distress; to establish in riches or happiness.  
He hath given her his monumental ring, and thinks him-  
self *made* in the unchaste composition. *Shaksp. Measure for Measure.*  
This is the night,  
That either *makes* me, or foredoes me quite. *Shaksp.*  
Each element his dread command obeys,  
Who *makes* or ruins with a smile or frown,  
Who as by one he did our nation raise,  
So now he with another pulls us down. *Dryden.*  
13. To suffer; to incur.  
The loss was private that I *made*;  
'Twas but myself I lost; I lost no legions. *Dryden.*  
He accuseth Neptune unjustly, who *makes* shipwreck a se-  
cond time. *Bacon.*  
14. To commit.  
She was in his company at Page's house, and what they  
*made* there I know not. *Shaksp. Measure for Measure.*  
I will neither plead my age nor sickness in excuse of the  
faults which I have *made*. *Dryden.*  
15. To compel; to force; to constrain.  
That the soul in a sleeping man should be this moment  
busy a thinking, and the next moment in a waking man not  
remember those thoughts, would need some better proof than  
bare assertion to *make* it be believed. *Locke.*  
They should be *made* to rise at their early hour; but great  
care should be taken in waking them, that it be not done  
hastily. *Locke.*  
16. To intend; to purpose to do.  
He may ask this civil question, friend!  
What dost thou *make* a shipboard? to what end? *Dryden.*  
Gomez; what *mak'st* thou here with a whole brotherhood  
of city-bailiffs? *Dryden's Spanish Fryar.*  
17. To raise as profit from any thing.  
He's in for a commodity of brown pepper; of which he  
*made* five marks ready money. *Shaksp. Measure for Measure.*  
Did